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Letter dated 14 November 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to refer to certain unfounded allegations and distorted references made about the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Permanent Representative of the United States in his statement at today's meeting of the Security Council on Iraq, and to bring the following to your attention in this regard:

It is not the first time, nor is it surprising, that the United States makes unfounded allegations against others in order to distract the international community's attention from its own failures and wrong policies in Iraq.

Iran has unambiguously condemned all acts of violence and terrorism in Iraq and has always extended its unwavering support to the Iraqi Government's efforts to stabilize and reconstruct the country. Iran has itself been a victim of the terrorist acts committed by a terrorist group that is stationed in Iraq and enjoys United States protection.

As an immediate neighbour, Iran has a vital interest in a democratic and prosperous Iraq. The Islamic Republic of Iran has spared no efforts to strengthen partnership and cooperation with Iraq and has already implemented many short-term and long-term projects aimed at helping the Iraqi people and Government to rebuild their country. Our support for peace, stability and development in Iraq has been, and continues to be, unabated.

We also wish to express our rejection of the use of a fake name for the Persian Gulf by the United States Representative in his statement in the Council today. The only correct and recognized historical name for the sea area between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula, as also emphasized by the United Nations itself, is the Persian Gulf, and accordingly, any use of fabricated names for this body of water is totally unacceptable and is of no legal value whatsoever.

I should be grateful if you would bring the content of this letter to the attention of the members of the Council, and circulate it as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad **Khazaee**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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